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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1903.

This paper is regularly mailed to its subscribers until a definite order to discontinue is received and the subscription paid in full to the time the order is given.

THE changing of the Educational Board of the National Baptist Convention from Washington to Nashville has precipitated an interesting discussion and has raised other questions which show that the denomination is not thoroughly convinced that the best thing has been done and that other changes ought not to be made. There is a growing opinion that there is a disposition to centralize too much of the official representation of our denominational work in one place and under the same influence and in this way build up a kind of an oligarchy among Baptists. Then there are those who feel that the Educational Board could do more effective work in the section where it was located rather than in the section where it is located and in that sentiment we coincide, if the Board is expected to do effective work at all. The new Secretary could have been located in Washington just as well as in Nashville and in this way satisfied the demand of the rapidly growing number of Baptists in that section for the recognition which they deserve and should be accorded. While the great body of Baptists are in the South, they are not all in the South by any means. The changing of the Educational Board has revived the suggestion of changing the Foreign Mission Board which has been periodically mentioned for the past two or three years. In addition to the question of recognition it is urged now that the return of the Board to Richmond would thoroughly unite the Baptists in the great State of Virginia and perhaps bring the Lot Cary Convention back to the fold. These are strong arguments and no doubt if these blessings could be assured to the denomination, Kentucky would offer no serious objection for above all things the leaders in this state want that thing done which will develop the greatest missionary effort and will do the most good in saving the world through the preaching of the word. Any rate a thoughtful impartial discussion of the question will do no harm as these serious matters cannot get a full hearing in the convention for various reasons.

WHILE we pay little attention to Christmas as a religious celebration still there is no doubt about it being one of the most joyous and happy seasons of the year in which the people—old and young, rich and poor, vie with each other in adding to the comfort and pleasure of others. Indeed there are a very few people who do not find opportunity and inclination during this happy season to forget the cares, sorrows, and burdens of this life and find contentment and joy in the merry, merry jingle of the happy Christmas time. It is not all receiving either for many of the happiest people are those who give both time and money in adding to the pleasure and enjoyment of those who are less fortunate and who are poor and distressed and in this way they emphasize that it is more blessed to give than it is to

receive. This season also affords the opportunity for pleasant recognition from one class to another who, by virtue of faithful and consecrated service deserve this kind of encouragement which the humblest and poorest are able to give. A word of cheer to the faithful pastor, superintendent and teacher and a hearty "Merry Christmas," does its measure of good even if you are not able to make a gift of another character. The poor you have with you always and they need the joyous and cheerful remembrance of the season. A little token or word of sympathy will lighten their burdens and enable them to see a ray of sunshine in their poverty and want. This will cost but little in money or time and will bring as much comfort to the donor if it is done in the name of the Master as it will bring to the recipient. May we ask our readers to enter the Christmas season in this spirit and be the happier by adding to the happiness of others.

THE recent session of representatives of the several branches of the Presbyterian Church to adopt some plan of unification of these bodies, suggests the idea that colored churchmen have at least set their white brethren a good example in that respect. Colored people differ along denominational lines, but sectional lines never enter into their religion and for this reason they have no Southern Methodists and Northern Methodists, no Southern Baptists and Northern Baptists and our white brethren would more thoroughly represent the unity of the religion they teach if they would obliterate these imaginary lines and give emphasis to the principal that religion is universal. This sectional line in the several denominations does much in keeping sectional lines in politics and business and all tend to destroy the idea that all of us are citizens of a common country and should give aid and influence to the effort to make it the best government in the world. There should be home pride and state pride, but love of country should be paramount but this can never be as long as sectionalism is encouraged in religion.

THIS is the season of the year when we usually make our best efforts to enlarge our subscription list and when we look to our friends for their best help. Our paper is now nearing the close of its twenty-fifth volume and for nearly a quarter of a century, it has stood as the defender of the principles of our great denomination and the rights of the race. Our subscription list in all these years has been steadily increasing but it is far from being what it ought to be and in order to materially increase it we have decided to give the paper free for November and December to those who will send their subscriptions directly to this office. In other words if you will send us \$1.25, we will send the paper until Jan. 1, 1905. Sample papers are being mailed every week to a number of friends and the reception of the paper is an invitation to become a regular subscriber. Those who are subscribers may help us by calling attention to this offer and saying a good word for the paper. TF.

THERE are ten contests before the present Congress for seats in the lower house and one of them, that of Dantzler against Lever is a test of the suffrage laws of South Carolina and will involve the same question in nearly all the Southern States. Dantzler is a colored man and only received 167 votes to 4,220 cast for Lever, who was a white man, but he claims that 6,884 colored voters were not allowed to vote and the contest is brought to test the validity of the law under which they were disfranchised. Of course if they had voted Dantzler would have been elected and this contest will be watched with considerable interest as it may finally end in settling the constitutionality of many of the laws in the Southern States disfranchis-

ing citizens upon the ground of color.

The call for educated Negro men who have made a special study of theoretical and practical Agriculture is more pressing than the supply. The demand for such men comes from all parts of the United States and from several foreign countries. The Agricultural Department of the common school or college courses. We hope that a large number of such persons will enter this department at Tuskegee this fall. For information as to expenses, etc., apply to President Booker T. Washington, Tuskegee, Alabama. TF

## NEWS AND NOTES.

The Republican National Convention has been called to meet in Chicago, Tuesday, June 21, to nominate candidates for President and Vice President.

A new school was opened in Washington City last Friday and was named the Abby S. Simmons' School, in honor of one of the best and most successful colored teachers in that city.

The National Baptist Union brings the sad and surprising intelligence that Prof. Wm. Roseborough Musical Director of the National Baptist Convention died at Fort Worth, Tex., Thursday, Dec. 3. He was buried at Marshall, Texas, Saturday, Dec. 5.

At the meeting of the Executive Committee of the Afro-American Council held in Washington City last Friday, in addition to transacting a good deal of important business, it was decided to hold the annual session in 1904 in St. Louis, commencing Tuesday, Sept. 6.

Rev. W. T. Jones of Seabree, Ky., who has been recently called to the pastorate of the Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Mt. Vernon, Ind., has entered upon that work by conducting an interesting revival which has led to the conversion of many and greatly reviving the church.

May we ask our subscribers this week to read the label on their papers and if they are in arrears to send us a Christmas gift next week in the way of a money order or check. We assure them in advance that it is needed and will be appreciated in that spirit.

Crit Buralas, a colored man residing in New Albany, allowed his insurance policy to expire at 12 o'clock one day last week and at five minutes after twelve he was killed by a Dinkey train in that city and his family lost the benefit of the insurance he had been carrying.

Miss Cora Fowler an accomplished young colored woman has been appointed as teacher of the Plain District School, Sheffield, Mass. This is a mixed school as are all the schools of that state and this is the first time a colored teacher has been in charge.

The Alabama Supreme Court has decided that Peter Crenshaw a colored man is entitled to vote because he was a soldier in the Civil War, the new constitution of Alabama providing that surviving soldiers both Federal and Confederate can vote. The registrars of Limestone County had tried to shut him out for other reasons even after knowing his army record.

The proposition to change the name of the Protestant Episcopal Church shows that it will not be changed in the near future. The vote, which favored a change at once was: Bishops, 22; clergy, 940; laity, 64,883. The vote against change was: Bishops, 21; clergy, 384; laity, 92,655. The vote, which favored an ultimate change, but did not desire it at this time, was: Twelve bishops, 596 clergymen,

92,342 laymen. The largest vote did not pass at all on the question of a change, but considered it unwise to act on the question at this time.

Mr. Fortune follows an excellent lead in standing up for Negro office-holders who are unjustly attacked merely because they have been successful in getting what the other fellows wanted. It is foolish to denounce a man as a coward, sycophant and time server for having the popularity, ingenuity and industry to obtain a place on the government pay roll, and then has tact and discretion enough to conduct himself in a manner to win the confidence and respect of his superiors. An organization that draws the line on office-holders writes itself down as an aggregated ass.—The Advocate.

Rev. C. T. Walker, D.D., LL.D., returns to the South after more than four years successful pastorate in New York City. During this brief pastorate, 2100 persons have been added to the church, \$50,000 have been raised, a colored Y. M. C. A. organized, and property purchased costing \$30,000. The Mt. Olivet Baptist Church is now the largest colored congregation in the north, and is at the head of the list in money raising. \$3850 were raised above all expenses during their recent ten nights fair; and more than \$14,000 have been raised this year. The Church voted unanimously not to accept his resignation, but being anxious to build up his school in Georgia, the Walker Institute, will begin in active canvass in January to raise funds to enlarge their present work by adding Industrial and Agricultural departments. He will resume the active pastorate of his former charge at Augusta, Ga.

## Envy.

An envious spirit is characteristic of a small man. The envious man is always self-assertive and if, because he is wanting in capacity for leadership, he is not first in position, influence and authority, he will take a kind of diabolic pleasure in trying to excite envy in the hearts of others toward his superiors. The littleness—which is only another name for meanness—of some men is a severe tax on one's patience. It is a relief to turn away from the small man—small in mental calibre and immoral growth narrow in his views, sordid in his motives, selfish in his purposes, dominated by petty prejudices—and find yourself in the presence of a truly great man—great in moral excellence and spiritual force, broad minded and large-hearted, free from the mean spirit of suspicion and jealousy and envy and filled with the Spirit of Christ.—Ex.

You will find it less easy to unroot faults than to choke them by gaining virtues. Do not think of your faults, still less of others' faults; in every person who comes near you look for what is good and strong; honor that; rejoice in it, and, as you can, try to imitate it; and your faults will drop off, like dead leaves, when their time comes.—John Ruskin.

## Y. M. C. A. NOTES.

Under the management of Bro. H. B. Britt, a very enjoyable entertainment was held at the Y. M. C. A., Monday evening. Thanks to our friends who contributed to its success.

During the month of Nov. eight religious and ten secular meetings were held at the Y. M. C. A.

A good Christmas investment—a membership in the Boys' Club of the Y. M. C. A.

Bro. E. D. Bronston will lead the Men's meeting at the Y. M. C. A., Sunday 3:30 p. m. Subject: "A Favored Young Man." Come.

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## News From the Lone Star State

Many days have passed since my last contribution to the columns of the American Baptist, so I am moved to write a few items. The national and state meetings of the year are all events of the past; the old year is almost gone and we now find ourselves in a meditative mood.

The charming December days lend no little help in placing us in this pensive attitude. The fruitful fall revivals and evangelical meetings have generally closed and everything in the Lone Star State is moving on in the even tenor of its way, awaiting the Christmas tide. The gay pickers are returning from harvesting the fleecy product of the cotton fields.

In Waco, the private and public schools are well filled with bright and happy students. The capacity of both Paul Quinn College and Central Texas Academy is being taxed to accommodate the increased enrollment. The news comes from the other schools of the state that they also are crowded. So the year will close with the educational activities of the state in a wide awake condition.

The outlook for the Negro schools of the state was never better. The missionary cause is even in better condition than the educational. The Texas idea is to place missions first.

The Missionary and Evangelical Wagon which was dedicated at the Missionary and Educational Convention this year at Waxahachie, has travelled about eight hundred miles since October 15. The wagon in charge of Revs. A. R. Griggs, Sr., and A. R. Griggs, Jr., was in the city last week and great good was accomplished on the streets.

New Hope Baptist Church, of the writer is pastor, gave the missionary \$45.60. The spirit of unity of the Baptist family is more observant in the state than formally. That ecclesiasticism which does not advocate unity violates one of the cardinal principles of the Christian life. The condition which confronts us in this age demands a closer union of the Negro Baptists both in the state and in the nation.

The old-time leaders of the National Convention should take their eyes off the old sores of the past that have rent us asunder and let the great physician, Jesus Christ, bind up, heal and cure. The rank and file in Texas are in favor of a united Baptists.

The air is ripe with the spirit of co-operation. The big-hearted ministers of this state favor making whatever concessions are necessary to bring about the return of the Lot Cary Convention to the National Baptist Convention. T. L. JONES, Waco, Texas.

## POINTS ABOUT PEOPLE.

The Womans' Improvement Club will meet this afternoon with Miss Emma Kalfus, 539 Roselane Street.

Nearly all the Sunday Schools of the city will have Christmas exercises next Thursday evening.

There has been an abundance of old time winter weather this week.

Rev. S. T. Clanton, D. D., formerly of Louisiana but at present Acting President of Normal Institute during the illness of President Council, Normal, Ala., spent Sunday in this city, en route home from a trip East in the interest of his work.

Mr. J. W. Harris of Kendies, Va. is visiting our city the guest of his son, Rev. E. G. Harris, Chestnut Street.

The music loving public of Louisville was given another treat last Wednesday evening at Odd Fellows' Hall, when Mr. Joseph H. Douglass, the well known violinist, assisted by local talent, gave a Recital for the Church of Our Merciful Saviour. The program was of the highest order and all who attended felt amply repaid. The audience was charmed with Mr. Douglass, as the encores showed. Miss Renix;

Messrs. Barnett, Frown and Kincaid were also heartily applauded. The playing of Miss Eliza Eversport, the accompanist was enjoyed.

Despite the very inclement weather last Saturday evening, the pleasant home of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. F. Mason, West Walnut St., was thronged with friends who came to offer best wishes and congratulations. The occasion was the Twenty-fifth marriage anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Mason. The number of guests and the handsome presents showed in what high esteem Mr. and Mrs. Mason are held by their friends. The evening was very pleasantly spent and supper consisting of the season's delicacies was enjoyed by all. We wish for Mr. and Mrs. Mason many more years of happiness.

Rev. C. B. Allen closes five years of labor at Knox Presbyterian Church, Sunday Dec. 27, and will preach an anniversary sermon on Sunday morning, Dec. 27, and at night a Memorial Sermon in memory of those who have died during these five years. It is desired that the members and friends of the church will turn out to these anniversary services. On Monday night Dec. 28, a reception will be given and several of the leading men of the city will make short addresses. To this the public is invited.

There will be held in this city on Thursday, Dec. 31, at the Plymouth Congregational Church, corner 17th and Chestnut Sts., a meeting of the Womans' Clubs of this state for the purpose of effecting a State Federation of A. L. Womans' Clubs who are doing any kind of work for the upbuilding of the race, or betterment of humanity are requested to send a delegate or representative to this meeting. The public is also invited to be present. Questions concerning the race will be discussed. A fine program rendered both at the afternoon and evening sessions. Several distinguished visitors from other cities will take part on the program. Mrs. M. E. Steward, Mrs. R. J. Harris, Misses Georgia A. Nugent, Lucretia Gibson, Lucy Flint, Nannie H. Burroughs, Alice Marshall, Local Committee.

## SCHOOL NOTES.

The High School pupils were favored with a Violin Recital by Mr. Joseph Douglass of Washington City last Friday afternoon.

The Teachers' Institute will hold a meeting tomorrow morning in the Chapel of Central High School.

Mr. Richard Weston of Canada gave a Piano Recital for the entertainment of the High School pupils last Monday morning.

Rev. Brooks of Chicago visited the High School last Wednesday and addressed several classes, giving a brilliant account of his trip abroad.

The Central Evening School held its closing exercises for the Holidays last Friday evening. The exercises were enjoyed by all.

Miss Lula Grant of the Central Evening School, was the recipient of many useful presents from the following named pupils:—Alex Lilly, Mary Warren, Alex Cunningham, Maggie Abbott, Ann Miller, Myrie Smith, Tracy Berryman, Walter Darden, James Dunn, Henry Martin, Lena Buckner, Lou Paxton, Anna Smith, Rosa Brooks, Harriett Burrell, Martha Frye, Queena Scott, Jeff Kinkead, Frances Evans, Miss Queen Peter Freeman, Nora Brown, Theresa Berryman and Frances Robinson.

Supt. Mark has started a movement to have shade trees set out in the school yards before spring.

Great interest is being manifested in the coming concert to be given at Music Hall next Tuesday evening by the Glee Club of the High School.

The Industrial School of the Church of Our Merciful Saviour will have an exhibit of the pupil's fall work and a Coffee Social at the school, corner 11th and Walnut St., Wednesday Dec. 23, 1903 from 10:00 to 10:00 p. m. Admission free. The public is cordially invited. Miss C. Roxborough, Instructor. Miss Nellie Frye a pupil will conduct the social.